Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Distr.: General
1 May 2017

Original: English

First session
Vienna, 2-12 May 2017

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

National report submitted by New Zealand

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to action 20 of the action plan set out in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The plan stipulates that States parties submit regular reports on their implementation of the action plan, and of article VI, paragraph 4 (c), of the 1995 decision entitled "Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament", as well as the practical steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference, recalling also the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996.

2. New Zealand considers that transparency is a principle to which all States (nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States alike) should adhere because it helps to reinforce compliance with Treaty obligations. The more that is known about how States implement their Treaty commitments, the greater the level of international trust in the regime. In this spirit, New Zealand has consistently lodged transparency reports since the 2000 Review Conference and, in the light of action 20, will continue to do so.

3. New Zealand is a strong supporter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and its three pillars. We are dedicated to achieving a world free of nuclear weapons and continue to encourage national, regional and global efforts to realize this goal.

4. New Zealand supported General Assembly resolution 70/33 establishing an Open-Ended Working Group on taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations and participated actively in all meetings of the Working Group in Geneva in 2016. New Zealand co-sponsored General Assembly resolution 71/258, mandating negotiations on a nuclear weapon prohibition treaty at the United Nations in New York in 2017. We are engaging constructively in these negotiations, including as an effective means of strengthening the Non-Proliferation Treaty and implementing article VI.

5. New Zealand has been a strong supporter of efforts undertaken to increase awareness of the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. New Zealand remains gravely concerned about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and continues to believe that the only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons are never used again is through their total elimination, including through

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the full implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. We engaged actively in the three international conferences on this issue held since 2013 in Norway, Mexico and Austria and sought to ensure that any outcome to the 2015 Review Conference would reflect the humanitarian initiative. New Zealand also co-sponsored General Assembly resolutions on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons (resolutions 70/47 and 71/46) and supported General Assembly resolutions on the humanitarian pledge for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons (resolutions 70/48 and 71/47).

6. New Zealand is an active member of the New Agenda Coalition[1] to promote nuclear disarmament. The Coalition sponsors an annual General Assembly resolution entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments". In its resolutions 70/51 and 71/54, the Assembly highlighted the central role of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and its binding nature at all times and in all circumstances. The Assembly called on all States parties to the Treaty to comply fully with all decisions, resolutions and commitments made at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences and called upon Member States to continue to support efforts to identify, elaborate and negotiate effective legally binding measures for nuclear disarmament.

7. New Zealand is associated with the two working papers submitted by the Coalition to the Preparatory Committee for its session in 2017: a working paper on a range of nuclear disarmament issues (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.I/WP.9); and a working paper on strengthening accountability through enhanced transparency and measurability of the implementation of nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT/CONF.2020/PC.I/WP.13). As a member of the New Agenda Coalition, New Zealand looks forward to building further on these at the 2017 session of the Preparatory Committee and during the current review cycle.

8. New Zealand also works with Chile, Malaysia, Nigeria, Sweden and Switzerland (the members of the De-Alerting Group) in promoting action to lower the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems. In adopting the most recent resolution sponsored by the Group in 2016 (resolution 71/53), the General Assembly called for further practical steps to be taken to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status and looked forward to the issue being addressed further during the next review cycle. New Zealand remains committed to progress in this area as part of a holistic approach to nuclear disarmament.

9. New Zealand remains a strong proponent of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and participates actively in the work of the Preparatory Commission in Vienna. New Zealand associated itself with the eighth Joint Ministerial Statement on the Treaty, adopted in New York on 21 September 2016, and is a core sponsor, with Australia and Mexico, of a regular General Assembly resolution on the Treaty, in which the Assembly has recognized the Treaty as a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation (see General Assembly resolutions 71/86, 70/73 and 69/81).

10. Pending the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, New Zealand urges all States to refrain from testing nuclear devices or from undertaking activities that would undermine the object and purpose of the Treaty. New Zealand has publicly condemned all nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the most recent nuclear tests on 6 January and 9 September 2016.

[1] Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand and South Africa.

11. New Zealand was elected a non-permanent member of the Security Council for a two-year term from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2016. In this role, New Zealand supported, inter alia, resolution 2231 (2015) endorsing the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on the nuclear programme of the Islamic Republic of Iran; resolution 2310 (2016) calling for early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty; resolution 2325 (2016) calling for strengthened implementation and reporting under resolution 1540 (2004), which seeks to keep non-State actors from acquiring nuclear, biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction; and resolutions 2270 (2016) and 2321 (2016) strengthening sanctions against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

12. New Zealand welcomes the actions being undertaken under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action to assure the international community of the compliance of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the deal. New Zealand is providing funding to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to assist with its verification of the compliance of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Plan of Action.

13. New Zealand is deeply disappointed that sustained attempts to determine a programme of work in the Conference on Disarmament have not been successful, and that the Conference is failing to fulfil its role in progressing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. In regard to the Conference's work programme, New Zealand supports the early negotiation of a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, reflecting both nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives.

14. Further to article VII of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, New Zealand is a strong advocate of the role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in contributing to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. As a party to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty of 1985 (the Treaty of Rarotonga), New Zealand works to promote more engagement between States that belong to nuclear-weapon-free zones. We served as a Vice-President of the third Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia on 24 April 2015.

15. Together with Brazil, Indonesia and South Africa, New Zealand sponsors a General Assembly resolution entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas" (see resolutions 71/51 and 70/45). The resolution recognizes the contribution of nuclear-weapon-free zones to the achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world and welcomes the fact that all nuclear-weapon-free zones in the southern hemisphere are now in force. It also calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to withdraw any reservations or interpretive declarations contrary to the object and purpose of treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones.

16. New Zealand welcomed the reaffirmation at the 2010 Review Conference of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review Conference and the agreement to convene a conference in 2012 on the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. It is regrettable that the Conference has still not been held. We continue to call for full implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and related agreements.

17. New Zealand fully complies with its commitments under article II of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. New Zealand's Treaty obligations are legislated in the New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament and Arms Control Act 1987.

18. Pursuant to article III of the Treaty, New Zealand has a comprehensive safeguards agreement, an additional protocol and a small quantities protocol in force

with IAEA. With no nuclear weapons, no nuclear energy generation, no nuclear reactors and no production of uranium or other relevant material, New Zealand conducts only very minor activities subject to safeguards. IAEA continues to assess New Zealand as being in full compliance with all its safeguards commitments.

19. New Zealand strongly supports a system of strengthened IAEA safeguards as an essential component of the global non-proliferation regime. New Zealand believes that universal application of the integrated safeguards system, including the additional protocol, would promote collective security, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to conclude such agreements at the earliest possible date. New Zealand continues to seek opportunities to strengthen the application of nuclear safeguards and supports efforts by IAEA to develop the State-level concept as a means of increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the safeguards system.

20. New Zealand's new Radiation Safety Act 2016 has now entered into force, which enables New Zealand to more effectively meet its international obligations relating to radiation protection, safety, security and nuclear non-proliferation. In addition, New Zealand has ratified the amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. In November 2015, New Zealand hosted an IAEA International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) mission. This was the first IPPAS mission to a country with such limited nuclear and radioactive holdings. New Zealand's Director of Radiation Safety gave a presentation at the International Conference on Nuclear Security in December 2016 on our experience as a small country hosting an IPPAS mission. We expect to host a follow-up mission in 2018.

21. New Zealand applies export controls to materials and dual-use goods that could be used in a nuclear weapons programme. The Government maintains cooperation and information exchanges among relevant government agencies involved in export controls and continues both domestic and international outreach in this area. The recent review of the Customs Act and moves under way to introduce domestic controls on arms brokering further strengthen the existing regime. We work actively to strengthen and coordinate international measures with other members of the Nuclear Suppliers Group and with the Zangger Committee.

22. Further to article IV of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, New Zealand reaffirms the inalienable right of States parties to peaceful nuclear technology, in conformity with articles I, II and III of the Treaty, and continues to support the IAEA Peaceful Uses Initiative. It is an active participant in the IAEA Regional Cooperative Agreement for the Asia-Pacific region and also provides funding for international projects for peaceful uses. New Zealand's view is that safeguards, safety, security and waste management should be integral parts of the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy. New Zealand remains actively engaged in international efforts to strengthen nuclear safety and security, including through the recently concluded Nuclear Security Summit process, the IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security and through our funding of the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund.

23. New Zealand is an active member of the Vienna Group of Ten,[2] which produces working papers for the Non-Proliferation Treaty review cycle on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, compliance and verification, export controls, cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, nuclear safety, nuclear security and discouraging withdrawal from the Non-Proliferation Treaty. We support

[2] Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden.

the composite paper and recommendations put forward by the Vienna Group of Ten to the Preparatory Committee at its 2017 session.

24. Exercise Maru, a Proliferation Security Initiative, was hosted by New Zealand in November 2015. This was a discussion-based exercise focused on the Asia-Pacific region aimed at strengthening national, regional and international efforts to counter the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related materials. Exercise Maru was attended by 21 countries and the World Customs Organization. New Zealand also participated in Exercise Deep Sabre, hosted by Singapore in 2016, and will participate in Exercise Pacific Protector, hosted by Australia in September 2017.

25. In IAEA and other relevant forums, New Zealand continues to actively promote the safe transport of radioactive material. New Zealand is keen to ensure that the highest possible safety standards are adopted and applied by those transporting radioactive material, that coastal and other interested States receive notification in advance of shipments and that adequate liability arrangements are in place. New Zealand continues to participate in ongoing constructive dialogue, activities and coordination between relevant coastal and shipping States.

26. New Zealand remains committed to efforts to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education. Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (www.pnnd.org) helps New Zealand parliamentarians to stay abreast of international nuclear disarmament issues and initiatives through its regular updates and events at the Inter-Parliamentary Union Assemblies. The New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs gives regular briefings to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and includes NGO participants in United Nations disarmament meetings and in Review Conference delegations.

27. The Government of New Zealand has established two funds to support a wide range of disarmament and peace education activities. The Disarmament Education UN Implementation Fund helps to fund citizen groups to implement the recommendations of the 2002 United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education. The Peace and Disarmament Education Trust regularly funds disarmament education programmes and initiatives. Other projects partially funded using these funds include the creation of Peace Cities; museum exhibitions; relevant internships; peace libraries; the production of educational material for schools, journalists and university students; and visits by leading disarmament experts.

28. Peace Movement Aotearoa is the national networking peace organization. It has extensive national networks, a comprehensive website (www.converge.org.nz/pma) and a Facebook page. It provides national coordination, publishes resources and updates and circulates New Zealand's statements for the national campaigns of five global humanitarian disarmament campaigns, including the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Aotearoa New Zealand. Peace Movement Aotearoa promotes activities to mark key dates, including Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Day, the Global Day of Action on Military Spending, International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament, International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, International Day of Peace, and Hiroshima and Nagasaki days. It regularly reports to United Nations human rights bodies, raising disarmament issues whenever possible as part of its work to strengthen the links between disarmament and human rights.

29. The Peace Foundation (www.peace.net.nz), based in Auckland, organizes the annual Schools' Peace Week event to commemorate the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and provides resources and activity ideas for schools nationally and globally. In 2016, 264 schools participated in New Zealand and

internationally in Pakistan, China, the United States of America, Jordan and New Caledonia. The theme for 2017 is "Aotearoa New Zealand: 30 Years Nuclear Free". The Foundation offers presentations to schools entitled "Responding to Armed Conflict", which cover topics such as nuclear disarmament, the thirtieth anniversary of New Zealand's nuclear free legislation, the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the nuclear weapon ban treaty initiative, and disarmament and development. New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone Day on 8 June highlights New Zealand's role in helping to create a nuclear free world. A new website (www.nuclearfreenz30.org.nz) hosts educational material for social studies and history teachers and students about nuclear disarmament-related topics currently being taught in a number of schools.

30. The Disarmament and Security Centre (www.disarmsecure.org) in Christchurch, a national peace and disarmament resource centre, organized a symposium at the University of Canterbury on 8 July 2016 to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the historic advisory opinion on nuclear weapons of the International Court of Justice. The Disarmament and Security Centre and Canterbury Museum have developed exhibitions on New Zealand's nuclear free policy, which are currently travelling round local libraries.

31. UN Youth New Zealand fosters global citizenship through a range of opportunities, including study tours to international Model United Nations conferences, as well as the organization of more than 20 Model United Nations conferences domestically. Its flagship Model United Nations conference is the NZ Model United Nations, a four-day national conference that attracts 250 delegates. Furthermore, it delivers an online Model United Nations initiative, the Diplomacy Competition, that runs as four month-long rounds throughout the year for over 600 students. Through the conferences and initiatives, young people are encouraged to critically evaluate issues such as the use of nuclear technology and weaponry, and the role of peacekeeping. The United Nations Association also organizes public meetings promoting nuclear disarmament and has created webquests on the United Nations that highlight the thirtieth anniversary of nuclear free New Zealand and the World Court Project.

32. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Aotearoa promotes disarmament through its involvement in the Aotearoa New Zealand Campaign on Military Spending, the Aotearoa New Zealand Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, the Aotearoa New Zealand Joint Working Group on Cluster Munitions and Landmines, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons Aotearoa New Zealand and White Poppies for Peace; and by publicizing international WILPF initiatives and resources — especially those produced by Reaching Critical Will and PeaceWomen — through its e-mail lists and Facebook page. WILPF Aotearoa organizes regular peace vigils throughout the year and Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemorations every August.

33. Unfold Zero (www.unfoldzero.org) is a project of PragueVision, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, the Basel Peace Office, the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign, Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace and the Global Security Institute. It provides conference calls, e-mail updates and social media promotion related to nuclear disarmament. Abolition 2000 Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons also informs NGOs about the wide range of nuclear abolition initiatives around the world through its website (www.abolition2000.org), Facebook page and newsletters.